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Date of Deposit: October 24, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (CURA-77)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Shimkets, *et al*  
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang  
FILING DATE : September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646  
FOR : GROWTH FACTOR POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS  
ENCODING SAME

**RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOV 03 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

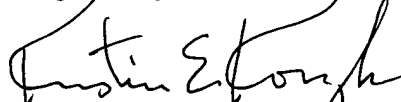
**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a one-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action, mailed June 24, 2003 in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before October 24, 2003. A check in the amount of \$55.00, in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1), is enclosed herewith. The Applicants claim small entity status.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-577 (Cura-77). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Date: October 24, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Attorney for Applicants  
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN

Tel: (617) 542-6000  
Fax: (617) 542-2241  
Customer No. 30623

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